CITIZEN INTELLIGENCE ARCHIVE

Senate Race File #006 — New Hampshire

Session 2 | October 2026 | Pappas (D) vs. Sununu (R)

> **WHAT CHANGED:** Both Sept 8 primaries are over. **Chris Pappas (D)** won about 65% to 33% over Karishma Manzur. **John E. Sununu (R)** won the Republican nomination. The matchup is set. This file replaces the pre-primary version.

This seat is open for the first time since 1990. Jeanne Shaheen (D) is retiring after 18 years. The general election is November 3, 2026. New Hampshire does **not** use ranked-choice voting. Whoever gets the most votes wins.

Candidate A — Chris Pappas (D)

U.S. Representative, NH-01, since 2019.

THE FACTS — RECORD
Voted "present" on an amendment (by Rep. Massie) to cut U.S. aid to Israel. He has called for a "reset" of the U.S.–Israel relationship and has criticized the Netanyahu government.
Spoke at an AIPAC summit earlier this year. He has since described it as a meeting with local constituents.
His primary opponent, Manzur, attacked him for taking AIPAC money. An August UNH poll had him ahead of her by 13 points. He won by about 32.

FOLLOW THE MONEY	NOTES	FLAG
AIPAC	AIPAC was his largest single donor in the 2024 House race, over $300,000. *Carried from Session 1. I could not re-open the filing today.* AIPAC endorsed him in his House races. It has **not** endorsed in this Senate race.	**FLAGGED**
Other pro-Israel groups	Democratic Majority for Israel and the Jewish Democratic Council of America praised his win. I did not find dollar amounts for this race.	**PENDING**

MONEY TEST — PAPPAS: AIPAC = **FLAGGED** (House-cycle money; no Senate endorsement). Corporate / dark money = **PENDING**.

Candidate B — John E. Sununu (R)

Former U.S. Senator from New Hampshire (2003–2009). Former U.S. Representative (1997–2003). MIT engineer. Son of former Governor John H. Sununu, brother of former Governor Chris Sununu. He lost this seat to Shaheen in 2008. Trump endorsed him after Sununu called Trump a "loser" in a 2024 op-ed.

THE FACTS — RECORD
In the Senate he voted with his party 84% of the time. He supported the Iraq War, opposed a same-sex marriage ban, and opposed an assault weapons ban.
Israel record: Sununu is Arab-American with Palestinian and Lebanese heritage. In the House (1997–2003) he voted against several pro-Israel resolutions (1997, 1999, 2000). As a senator he took more standard pro-Israel votes (2005, 2007, 2008). His campaign says he backs Trump's Israel policy and Israel's right to defend itself.

FOLLOW THE MONEY	NOTES	FLAG
AIPAC / pro-Israel PACs	No current-cycle AIPAC money found. TrackAIPAC shows $19,500 over his whole career, all from old cycles. When a reporter asked AIPAC if it would get involved in this race, it declined to comment. I have not re-checked his filings since the primary.	**CLEAN (none found)**
Corporate / private sector	He spent 18+ years in the private sector after the Senate. Donor sources for this race still need research.	**PENDING**

MONEY TEST — SUNUNU: AIPAC = **NONE FOUND** (with real context, not just a data gap). Corporate / dark money = **PENDING**.

ARCHITECT ANALYSIS (opinion): This is a rare race where the Democrat carries the AIPAC flag and the Republican does not. Pappas took AIPAC's money for the House but has been pulling away from it in public. Sununu's record gives a reason AIPAC has stayed out. Neither fits the usual script. Voters should ask Pappas whether his "reset" talk is a change or a campaign line, and ask Sununu who is funding him this time. I have not seen a reliable general-election poll, so I will not guess who is ahead.

STATUS: SESSION 2, NOMINEES CONFIRMED. Open items: re-verify Pappas's AIPAC total from FEC; pull Sununu's Q3 donors and outside spending; watch for super PAC money in the general.
Change log: Session 2 (Aug) → Oct 2026: primaries decided; Pappas and Sununu are nominees; removed Brown and Manzur sections; replaced pre-primary text.
Sources: Jewish Insider, WSHU / New England Public Media, TrackAIPAC (via Session 1).

"*I don't tell you how to vote. I give you the X-ray. You decide.*"
— Uma | PixelMagic / MindTraveler | People Over Party